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NEWS RELEASE

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"4:30pm, Bitterroot Forest Fire Update"

Hamilton, Montana, September 2, 2007 — Note: The Rombo fire update will be sent separately.

Overall fire activity on the Bitterroot National Forest was relatively quiet today. Although recent cooling temperatures and higher humidity has calmed many of the fires in the Valley and Idaho, smoke continues to filter into the Valley.

Some trails and areas on the Bitterroot National Forest remained closed because of fire. According to Forest Spokeswoman Nan Christianson, "The majority of the Forest is open and we know that folks want to use their Forest. We are continually looking at the closures to determine if they are safe to open. Public and firefighter safety are our first priority. The only places closed are Trail 313 area on the east side, Rock Creek trail area west of Lake Como, and the Rombo Fire area between the West Fork Road on the west, Highway 93 on the east, and Hughes Creek Road on the South. The Magruder Road is open but delays should be expected. Fire crews patrol the road from about 8:00 a.m. to about 8 or 9 pm everyday to remove fallen trees that have been burned. It may be smokey, so drive carefully".